There was a ferry service at present in the Peringara river towards the west of the Municipal office. A bridge should be constructed at the place, as the people of the adjoining villages and a major portion of the student population found it very difficult and dangerous to cross the river during monsoon weather. Another bridge was also necessary at Muthoor, over the Tiruvalla market canal on the Muthoor-Mundankara Chira road. The Palliyilpalam bridge was in repairs and should be reconstructed immediately, in consideration of the traffic over it.

Lastly, the Tiruvalla market canal should be connected with the Peringol river, which would afford direct water communication with Alleppey. This would greatly assist the development of the Tiruvalla market. The new canal to be opened for this purpose would be only 5 or 6 furlongs long and the cost would not be prohibitive, as the major portion of the canal would be passing through paddy fields. The new canal would also remedy the present scarcity of water for bathing purposes, especially as the whole canal would be within municipal limits.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Krishna Panikkar. The first of your representations relates to the establishment of a Magistrate's Court at Tiruvalla. As I told you last time, this question is engaging the attention of Government and it will be more comprehensively considered in connection with the readjustment of the territorial jurisdiction of the Magistrates' Courts in the whole of the Quilon Division.

The question of reconstruction of the V. M. School for girls at Tiruvalla is under consideration. When I say that it is under consideration—the reply being the same that was given last year—you need not go away with the impression that, since that reply was given last year, nothing further has been done. The matter has been under consideration. The preliminaries have been gone through. Therefore do not be discouraged by getting the same reply as was given last year.

As regards the introduction of English as an optional subject, the necessity is not quite clear, since there are English schools near by.

So far as the bridges mentioned by you are concerned, the Peringara and Palliyilpalam bridges have been sanctioned. The Chief Engineer's report is awaited about the bridge at Muthoor. The question of opening a canal connecting the Tiruvalla market canal with the river system is one that has to be investigated. That question will be considered.

118. Needs of the Shertallai taluk.

MR. ERAVI GANGADHARA KARTHA (*Shertallai taluk, Group I*) first referred to the disturbances at Shertallai in connection with the temperance movement. The member for Shertallai in the Legislative Council had brought to the notice of the Government the Police

excesses and the policy pursued by the Government officers. The committee appointed by the State People's Conference had also submitted a report after due enquiry. The member for Shertallai moved an adjournment motion at the last session of the Council regarding the matter and the Dewan had promised that the Government would enquire into the matter and do the needful. But the Government had not done anything in the matter. Hence a committee with a non-official majority should be appointed immediately to enquire into the matter. The prohibitory order now in force at Shertallai should also be withdrawn forthwith, as it infringed the fundamental rights of every citizen of the taluk.

The member next referred to the necessity for having a network of cross roads and cross canals in the taluk, to afford facilities for transport of copra, coir and other agricultural products of the place. The member mentioned about the following local needs as deserving immediate consideration and early sanction :—

(1) Completion of the Alleppey-Shertallai canal. The work was now held in abeyance. A large amount had already been spent for land acquisition and a few miles of the canal had been dug at both ends. The work should be completed.

(2) Opening of a canal from Muttathukayal to Pozhichal. This would open up the whole of Vayalar *pakuthi*, the most fertile place in the taluk. The people had agreed to surrender the required land free of compensation.

(3) Opening of a road connecting the Aroor road with the beach.

The taluk was extremely unhealthy, with its extreme heat, mosquitoes and bad water. The three virulent diseases, *viz.*, elephantiasis, tuberculosis and leprosy were doing immense havoc to the population. Hence special arrangements should be made immediately to combat the three diseases.

There was want of accommodation in the Shertallai Hospital for in-patients. The medicine supply was also inadequate. A well-equipped hospital was an urgent necessity of the taluk.

A Sub-Registrar's Office should be opened at Pattanakad. The matter was being considered by the Government.

With the opening of the Shertallai-Aroor road the Shertallai town would expand and grow in importance. Hence the town should be made a municipal town.

DEWAN'S REPLY : Mr. Gangadhara Kartha. The representations that you have made here will be considered.

As regards the Alleppey-Shertallai canal, you might remember that the same subject was brought up before the last session of the Assembly and I gave then a fairly long reply to that. Nobody says that a canal of this description is useless. The only question is whether, now that we have a road, a costly canal of this description is so urgent that it should be taken up without reference to other urgent items of work that must be done. That is the only question.

The two other subjects of yours will more or less go with it.

As for the diseases that you mentioned, you must yourself be aware that some survey and some research work is being done in the direction of finding out means of eradicating or mitigating these diseases. There is a filariasis survey that is going on; and with regard to mosquitoes, we are going to have an entomologist to identify the bad types of mosquitoes and to suggest means which might be employed to kill out mosquitoes.

The question of making Shertallai a municipal town will be investigated.

All the suggestions that you have made will receive due consideration at the hands of Government.

119. Needs of the Shertallai taluk.

MR. NARAYANAN KOCHUPILLAI KYMAL (*Shertallai taluk, Group II*) speaking in Malayalam, said at the outset that the members of the Assembly were highly gratified at the Dewan's recovery from his recent illness. Then the member referred to the hardships suffered by the people on account of the economic depression that prevailed in the country and suggested that immediate relief should be afforded in the matter by a general remission of tax, better encouragement of the co-operative movement, the carrying out of new public work to relieve unemployment among the labouring classes, the suspension of chitties, etc. He also suggested that the Committee proposed to be appointed should have among its members the representatives of the people as well as representatives of the trading community. Then he spoke on the following local needs of the taluk:—

The Pullen *chira* and the Parasseri *chira* should be restored and provided with locks. This was essential for the *kari* lands in Vayalar East.

Two ferry boats should be provided in Muttathukayal and the level of the approach roads to the ferry should be raised and made fit for traffic. This was recommended by the Road Board, but not given effect to.

Cross-roads should be opened from Ponnamveli in Shertallai-Aroor road to Kelamangalathu *Kadavu* and thence to Ottappunnakkal in Shertallai-Arukutti road.

A road should be opened from Thuravur Nadakkal westward to the T. D. School and thence northward to Veluthulli and a bridge should be constructed on the above road near Tirumala Devaswom temple.

A bridge should be constructed on the Poochakkal canal, fit for vehicular traffic. This bridge was necessary for opening the Shertallai-Arukutti road.

The Pookaitha *chira* between Panavalli and Taikkattusseri should be strengthened and a lock should be provided therein. This would be of great benefit to 300 acres of paddy fields.

The bunds of the Aroor Kambanjelam Azhikkakam paddy fields should be strengthened and provided with locks. This would benefit more than 2,000 paras of paddy fields.